

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05
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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5196
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLE IT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0210

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CY
SUBJECT: BILL TO PURGE GOC PASSED

REF: 76 NICOSIA 3370

1. SUMMARY: CYPRUS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSED BILL
ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES TO PURGE COUPIST IN GOVERNMENT
SERVICE. BILL RESPONDS TO LEFTIST DEMANDS AND IS GENERALLY
SEEN AS PAYOFF FOR PAST ELECTION FAVORS. END SUMMARY.
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2. LATE EVENING JANUARY 21 AFTER MARATHON SESSION CYPRIOT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSED OMNIBUS BILL AIMED AT
PURGING ALL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND SEMI-
GOVERNMENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS, ELECTRICITY AND BROAD-
CASTING CORPORATIONS OF ANY MEMBERS ALLEGED TO HAVE
COMMITTED DISCIPLINARY OFFENSES BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER

JULY 1974 COUP. SUCH OFFENSES INCLUDE ANY COMMISSION OR OMISSION OF AN ACT WHICH ENTAILS A LACK OF FAITH IN OR LOYALTY TO CYPRUS REPUBLIC AND RESPECT FOR ITS LAWS AND ANY PREPARATION OR PROMOTION OF A COUP OR THE OVERTHROW OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER OF THE STATE.

3. INVESTIGATIVE PROCEDURE PROVIDES THAT ANY PERSON MAY SUBMIT TO MINISTER OF JUSTICE WRITTEN COMPLAINT ABOUT ALLEGED DISCIPLINARY OFFENSE BY PUBLIC SERVANT. MINISTER SHALL SUBMIT COMPLAINT TO COMMITTEE OF SEVEN MEN WITH LEGAL BACKGROUNDS, WHO MUST INVESTIGATE WITHIN 30 DAYS. CONCLUSIONS OF INVESTIGATION WILL BE FORWARDED TO ATTORNEY GENERAL AS TO WHETHER FORMAL CHARGES ARE TENABLE. PENALTIES RANGE FROM FINE EQUAL TO ONE YEARS'S SALARY TO DEMOTION, COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OR DISMISSAL. MINISTER OF JUSTICE MAY ORDER ON HIS OWN AN INVESTIGATION AND MAY REQUIRE PERSONS HE BELIEVES IN POSSESSION OF EVIDENCE TO TESTIFY. THE PUBLIC SERVANT CHARGED IS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND HIMSELF AT A HEARING.

4. BASIS BILL WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. AMENDMENTS LIMITING PERIOD DURING WHICH CHARGES CAN BE BROUGHT TO NEXT SIX MONTHS AND PROVIDING THAT GOC CABINET OF MINISTERS MAY SUSPEND ANY PROCEEDING FOR REASONS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WERE HOTLY DEBATED AND FINALLY PASSED IN STRAIGHT PARTY VOTE: COMMUNIST AKEL AND LYSSARIDES' EDEK OPPOSED, KYPRIANOU'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN FAVOR.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS REGARDED GOC RESPONSE TO CALLS CONFIDENTIAL

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FOR PURGE ALONG WITH HOLDING OF VILLAGE ELECTIONS AS BELLWETHERS OF GOC WILLINGNESS TO REPAY AKEL AND EDEK FOR COOPERATING WITH DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN PRO-MAKARIOS "POPULAR FRONT" SLATE IN SEPTEMBER 1976 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (REFTEL). WITH VILLAGE ELECTIONS NOW SET FOR FEBRUARY AND A PURGE OF COUPIST AND RIGHTIST SYMPATHIZERS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE NOW WRITTEN INTO LAW, AKEL AND EDEK ARE DOUBTLESS FEELING WELL TREATED. COUPIST REMAINING IN PUBLIC POSITIONS HAVE BEEN AN AGGRAVATION FOR MANY MEMBERS OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY AS WELL, HOWEVER; AND ONE DP MEMBER OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REFERRED TO SUCH COUPISTS AS "UNFINISHED BUSINESS" WHICH MUST BE ATTENDED TO. QUESTION REMAINING IS PRECISELY HOW FAR MAKARIOS WILL ALLOW THIS PURGE TO GO, WHETHER HE WILL INSIST CYPRIOT LEFT CONTENT ITSELF WITH A FEW SYMBOLIC PROSECUTIONS AND DISMISSALS. DP-SPONSORED AMENDMENTS APPEAR TO SUGGEST THAT HE PLANS TO MOVE CAUTIOUSLY AND HOPES PURGE WILL BE FINISHED AS NATIONAL ISSUE BY MID-SUMMER.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINT, CY
To: STATE
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vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/52c0b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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